



State of Connecticut
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COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 5574 AN ACT IMPLEMENTATING THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT BIOSCIENCE
CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT REPORT
March 18, 2014

Good morning Senator LeBeau, Representative Perone, and the members of the Committee on Commerce. My name is Elizabeth Ritter and I am the State Representative for the 38th District, representing the communities of Waterford and Montville. I am here in support of HB 5574 AN ACT IMPLEMENTATING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT BIOSCIENCE CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT REPORT.

I first want to thank the committee for raising this bill. You will recall that last year the committee raised and passed a bill providing for the report giving rise to this bill and its proposed actions designed to promote and support the development of bioscience and biotechnology businesses in the Southeastern Connecticut Planning Region. This bill provides the framework to realize these actions through a regionally based program that includes outreach efforts, a marketing plan, a locally based working group, and the identification of and plan for a business incubator with a permanent business web presence.

The large and supportive contingent from Southeastern Connecticut who provided testimony and discussion last year has continued to be extremely interested in seeing these recommendations come to fruition. Many are here or have submitted their testimony in support of this next step. We are very thankful for the opportunity.

Thank you for your time and for your consideration.